

Informant:	LMP-S1	Spanish
Date:	5-19-02	Mini DV
Interviewers:	Claudia Hernandez	
Transcriber #1:	Josué Domínguez (p. 1-11)	
Transcriber #2:	Reyna Ronelli (p. 12-23)	

CH: Well we also wanted to ask what else you do during the limpia? And what type of incense INAUDIBLE?

S1: Incense of the Dead (incensio de muerto) and INAUDIBLE.

CH: Now what are you doing? OH, cutting the flowers.

S1: (mumbles)

CH: You have to ask San Simon for help before starting the limpia?

S1: INAUDIBLE

CH: Oh, in the morning, before doing your work?

S1: Yes

CH: And is it important to do the limpias in front of San Simon or...?

S1: Not all, but if it's something special I do it but if not then no.

CH: Why did you put this tree/stick, the tree/stick of Amock??

S1: So that there be a path. For wisdom.

CH: And so INAUDIBLE means path?

S1: Yes, it opens paths, so that all be love where ever you go.

CH: And why do you put the Jesus' cross on the floor in this position with the feet towards San Simon and the head towards me?

S1: Because that is the way it is supposed to be, because when one dies they lie you down facing the sun. I don't know how they do it here but in Guatemala it's the law and in El Salvador too I think. The person is to be looking up at the sun.

CH: And so the significance is that he is on the side that faces the sun?

S1: Yes.

CH: And why do you use that crucifix?

S1: I have that especially for curing, when a person needs something special.

CH: The flowers, I saw that you cut the flowers...

S1: The red ones...

CH: ...red ones.

S1: They are to give you love, and for people to treat you with care.

CH: And the yellow ones?

S1: For protection, for INAUDIBLE.

(sounds of pots and pans being kicked around)

CH: And right now why are you covering me with aluminum foil?

S1: To get rid of any badness or bad prayer towards you.

CH: So in Guatemala do you also use aluminum foil?

S1: No, depending on INAUDIBLE?

CH: And why do you prefer to use aluminum foil?

S1: To get rid of all the bad vibrations.

CH: Is there any occasion where you use any other type of something to cover the person?

S1: Well...sometimes the knife of San Simon or some cloth to do a job. In order to do the limpia, it's that one there.

CH: Oh, what color? This one or that one?

S1: The blue one.

CH: sometimes he uses this blue shawl to cover people when he does cleansings.

J: Why the aluminum foil; why the blue shawl?

CH: How do you determine what thing you are going to use whether the foil or the shawl to cover the person, how do you know?

S1: If I were to do a limpia for everything I would use rue (ruda), sweet-basil (albahaca), romero (rosemary) and some candles, like 'work' (trabajo), 'path' (camino) and 'protection' (proteccion), white candle, but if you want just a simple limpia just to last for a little time then I put some incense (incensio).

CH: Why...

S1: for you I did a good limpia so that you would do well in school.

CH: And then in what other occasion would you do this?

S1: This only I would do if someone asked for it I would do it, because it is a bit dangerous, some people get really bad.

CH: And why in some occasions would you use the blue shawl instead of the aluminum foil?

S1: Because the blue is so that all can be good for your work and for money. And since I blow on the person like this...also with a red cloth I could.

CH: OK, and in Guatemala is there a custom of covering a person when performing a limpia?

S1: Yes there is, but not with everyone because everyone is different.

CH: And who taught you?

S1: No one, I know on my own.

CH: Let me INAUDIBLE. OK, here we have a candle...

S1: A seven colored San Simon candle so that you may enter, so that the paths to your studies be open and in everything you might want to do.

CH: Also the yellow one?

S1: That is a work candle, and a protection candle.

CH: And this blue one here?

S1: Where? there is a red one and white one. The red one is for love and the white one for health and the yellow one for protection and the blue one is so that there is money and peace in the home.

CH: OK, and why do you cover my hands?

S1: it's so that all the bad influences are purged.

CH: Right now you made me hold a candle of each color.

S1: Yes it's so that you do well in all the months of the year.

CH: What is the significance of having these candles in the hand and those on the ground?

S1: The ones on the ground are for protection from everything, from like the earth and all. Like from traffic, like when you are out driving about in the street and this is so that you are good. So that there is happiness.

CH: 'Oil of Success' (aceite de exito)?

S1: That's for INAUDIBLE.

CH: Opens a path for work...OK.

(they are now listening to an taped interview of themselves S1 and CH but they continue to talk over it)

S1: Have you graduated?

CH: Not yet three more years. Right now what is the prayer that you are doing?

S1: 'House of Jerusalem' (Casa de Jerusalem).

CH: Could you dictate it to us right now, slowly?

S1: 'House of Jerusalem INAUDIBLE...opportunity...INAUDIBLE...person that is asking'

CH: And just that?

S1: It's very small that prayer.

CH: And so I noticed that you say different prayers, do you say this prayer more than once?

S1: yes.

CH: Ok. Let's see. (recording turned on). OK and here you are talking about San Simon's brother.

S1: yes, Hermano San Simon the Ixtapa, Hermano San Simon de sunil, Hermana Maria Luisa Sosa that is a spirit that works with me.

CH: SO you call the spirits?

S1: Yes, when I'm INAUDIBLE.

CH: Oh, so they could come and help you?

S1: So that they come and help INAUDIBLE.

CH: Is there a significance in the way that you place the incense?

S1: yes, so that it protects you and free you from any bad, like a circle.

CH: OK, a circle. How many times?

S1: Sometimes...it doesn't matter, there are some people that do it seven or more.

(turns on recording again)

S1: That spraying (soplado) [of florida water] is so all the bad that is around be cut.

CH: What is the significance of the incense? Is it to invite the spirits?

S1: It's for the spirits to come down and help me.

(recording turned on again)

CH: And here what prayer are you reciting?

S1: 'San Simon may everything come out well INAUDIBLE'

CH: They are already there?

S1: Yes.

CH: Let's stop here for a moment. Why do you use (agua florida)?

S1: To bring down a spirit. It's like when a person gets a heart attack INAUDIBLE. You put that on or you blow it in their face and goes away.

CH: And so why do you INAUDIBLE.

S1: to cut all that bad things and take out all the bad as well.

J: What does it feel like in his mouth?

CH: And why...and when you put the (agua florida) in your mouth and then spit it...?

S1: Because that's how it is to have all the bad go away.

CH: How does it feel what is the sensation?

S1: I don't feel anything, that's just how you cure.

CH: Because when I was watching the video I noticed that maybe it was a bit...

S1: Hot?

CH: No, that when you put it in your mouth to spit that it would sound like something not so pleasing, maybe the taste or...

S1: It was hot! The water was bitter, but you always do it that way. There are people that use alcohol but I don't.

CH: Why do you prefer...

S1: Because (agua florida) is better.

CH: Why?

S1: Because there are prayers and the alcohol I don't like it.

CH: So it's personal preference.

S1: I use it because I think it's best the (agua florida).

(recording playing again)

CH: And so when you hit me with the red lights you are taking away...

S1: All that stuff, we didn't break them right?

CH: No.

S1: When you break them sometimes things come out of them.

CH: And here is where you begin to take off the aluminum foil.

S1: What?

CH: The...

S1: They come out through here.

CH: What is the significance of that?

S1: So that the work that was done not be cut.

CH: OK. And here what prayer are you reciting?

S1: O Father's and Hail Mary's. More than anything it calls down the spirits.

CH: And there, why do you put the eggs in that position? Like in a triangle with the Jesus...?

S1: If there is a bad that thing then it gets stuck there.

CH: With the Jesus Christ?

S1: Yes

CH: IF there is something bad?

S1: Yes

CH: Then they do nothing bad to Jesus?

S1: Nothing.

CH: So here you are not praying but INAUDIBLE. And the flowers why do you put them?

S1: So that all that takes bad away, you pass the flowers like INAUDIBLE.

CH: And why do you put the eggs around the little candles...why do you put that?

S1: Because that's a work in progress.

CH: And here why do you pass the cross over my head?

S1: So that all that is and that will be, come out.

CH: So the eggs, when you put them in a triangle with the candles, on the ground and the flower petals, you do it because it's a work or...?

S1: It's a work.

CH: And so this a method of doing it?

S1: Yes. INAUDIBLE.

CH: Yes, I think so because INAUDIBLE. This is the first time that I've gotten sick this INAUDIBLE.

S1: That's long there.

CH: Yes. First you put the (agua florida) on my back why?

S1: Because many times that is where the bad things are.

CH: OK, and so you always start the limpia in that way?

S1: Yes.

CH: Now you put it on my arms and chest and on my forehead.

S1: yes.

(phone rings and tape cuts off and restarts later)

CH: ...to be able to see this...

J: INAUDIBLE...color...INAUDIBLE freeze it. That's good.

CH: OK. At the beginning in the middle of everything you removed from me the aluminum foil, like peeling fruit. What is the significance of that? Of taking it off in that manner?

S1: So that was has been done does not get cut.

CH: So the work is not cut/interrupted, OK, but you left my hands covered by the aluminum, even at the end of the limpia.

S1: When you do that it's like they have more energy because it's covering you.

(recording resumes)

CH: And how do you feel after doing it?

S1: Like sick.

CH: Why?

S1: Sometimes I always get it because there are some people that are full of bad vibrations and I get like sleepy, sometimes I get in a bad mood.

CH: Does it transfer to you?

S1: Yes, it can transfer but not a lot.

CH: And do you have to say goodbye to the spirits at the end of the limpia?

S1: you pour the (agua florida) and they leave.

CH: so it's used to say goodbye to them?

S1: yes, it's...well, you have to concentrate and you can't unfold then you throw some (agua florida) and you can talk.

CH: OK. We are at the end of the limpia.

J: Completely?

CH: Completely. He's actually...well let's see if there is anything missing.

(tape is resumed)

CH: And here you leave me and that is the work?

S1: That's it.

J: Did you ask him why the aluminum foil?

cH: Yes.

J: And why the particular crucifix that he used?

CH: Yes.

J: And why the (carbaña???) instead of tobacco smoke?

CH: Oh. Why do you use the charcoal (carbon) and rosemary incense (incensio de romero) and (incensio de iglesia) instead of any other type?

S1: Because (incensio de romero) is good to open a path, for getting a job and studies.

CH: And the (incensio de iglesia)?

S1: That's white and pure and it cures.

CH: And you some other type of incense?

S1: (copal blanco) and/or (copal Negro). But (copal blanco) I don't like it because its salt. I just don't like it.

CH: when do you use (copal) and when do you use incense?

S1: That one I use when I do work for a business, so that they get people, like that.

CH: the (copal)?

S1: Yes. The (copal blanco) and the other one like honey (miel).

CH: And with what frequency do you give that type of the limpia you gave me?

S1: 3 to 4 times a month, because not everyone wants because that is a bit more expensive, it's about 50 dollars and with that they could buy lots of stuff. The ones that I do I charge but they could just buy a candle that costs 2 dollars. If you go to another place it's a special limpia to like break some bad stuff.

CH: And when you do a regular limpia -- the free limpias, what do you do?

S1: That's with incense, I pass it on them and I put (agua florida) on them, (agua abrecamino), I mention San Simon. And INAUDIBLE they buy eggs here and I pass them on them.

CH: OK, and when do you do the free limpias?

S1: Tuesday's and Friday's.

CH: Do you get a lot of people?

S1: Yes. I do about 200 of them.

CH: Wow. Do you get more women or men?

S1: Well, a lot of Latinos and they all...like...well...like there is a woman like the one that just went out. She's from Mexico. For here there is nothing better than a limpia.

CH: So she is a regular?

S1: She comes here a lot.

CH: I got him to say one of the prayers. Could you recite "O father..." really slow?

S1: O father who art in heaven (Padre nuestro que estas en el cielo santificado sea tu nombre...INAUDIBLE...) amen.

CH: and what is the other prayer that you do when you do the limpia?

S1: "Casa de Jerusalem" (Jerusalem's home). And the prayer to San Simon, (begins to recite prayer very speedily) INAUDIBLE.

CH: That is the one that you do the most?

S1: INAUDIBLE.

CH: And do you have some copy of that prayer somewhere?

S1: Yes.

J: INAUDIBLE..with eggs?

CH: right...so eggs are something you use when they ask you?

S1: Yes, when they ask for it only. Because there are those who I charge 40 dollars for the limpia but because they ask for candles (veladoras), eggs (huevos), rue (ruda), rosemary (romero), basil (albahaca) and all that.

CH: Could I come on a Tuesday and observe how you do the limpias, not necessarily take video, because I know that you have to ask the person's permission.

S1: People don't really want it because they think that because of cameras they will come out on TV. But there might be some.

CH: Well you know...

S1: But you're welcome.

CH: What time do you start?

S1: Sometimes at 9 am, but in the afternoon there are lots of people here.

CH: So the whole day?

S1: Yes, all day till 9 at night.

CH: So I'll come by then on Tuesday.

S1: Yes.

CH: Any other questions?

J: Did you ask why this particular crucifix is used instead of some other?

CH: Yes, he favors that one. That is just the one he uses for healing.

J: [???

CH: I want to ask you some last questions concerning some of your work. We left off on the type of work you do to remove witchcraft. When someone is hexed what kind of work do you have to do to remove that?

S1: What I do is a spell breaker, a (***rompimiento***). I recommend an egg bath. I ask that they go home and do this in their own home. I just give them instructions on how to do it. For the bath you use Florida water (***agua Florida***), together with spell breaker oil (***aceite rompe conjuros***), work breaker (***rompe trabajos***), (***rompe saraguey***), and a “???-breaker candle” (***veladora rompe-???***). You take a big pan and put in some egg powder (cascarilla), flowers and eggs. You add some fire and the person passes through, this way and that way, in the form of the cross.

CH: You put all of these ingredients in a pot?

S1: Yes. You add seven garlic bulbs (***siete cabezas de ajo***), ***laurel***, ***rosemary (romero)***, ***rue (ruda)***, and you add the fire.

CH: The person walks over the pot?

S1: Yes, well not over the pot, but the person just passes in this direction.

CH: So that the smoke reaches the person or why?

S1: That is how it has to be. It has to be done in the form of a cross.

CH: That is the best way –

S1: The best spell breaker, yes.

CH: Do you have something for protection against accidents?

S1: Yes, there is a protection that utilizes white chickens and white flowers. I don't do this work here because it is very dangerous here. Here, if they catch you using animals they can take you to jail. I use only white flowers.

CH: Would you have to kill the chickens?

S1: No, you use them live.

CH: How many chickens?

S1: Three.

CH: How do you use them?

S1: I pass them over the person's body. I hold the chicken's beak and blow into it three times.

CH: Does the person have to do this?

S1: The person has to be present.

CH: What kind of white flowers do you use?

S1: I usually use tuberose (**nardos**) or white roses.

CH: Tuberose (**nardos**) or white roses?

S1: Yes, because tuberose (**nardos**) help bring good spirits and good forces.

CH: This helps to protect a person from having accidents?

S1: All white things can be used for protection against any evil.

CH: When you perform this kind of cleansing, do you use other things, like incense?

S1: I only use church incense.

CH: Do you perform this type of cleansing frequently?

S1: No, people usually ask for protection against enemies, against envy, or for their business, that is if they are not doing very well. I get a lot of people that come in because they have problems with their bones or suffer from headaches.

CH: If someone brings in a child that has the evil eye (**mal de ojo**). Will he/she need a cleansing?

S1: They will need a cleansing. They need to bring in seven white candles, and an egg. I blow and pass "the hand of stone" (**la mano de piedra**) over them and God takes it from there.

CH: The hand of stone (**la mano de piedra**)? What is that?

S1: The grinding stone (*la piedra de moler*), also known as the (*piedra de metate*) in Mexico.

CH: Is there some other way to treat a child suffering with the evil eye (*mal de ojo*)?

S1: I just know how to treat it that way. In Guatemala, we use something called (*chico*)-we pass this over the person's body, but you can't find (*chico*) here. This is then thrown out into some corner. When a child has constipation (*pujo*), I lay the child on the grinding stone mat. I then pass the "hand of stone" over the child in the form of the cross, while reciting two prayers, the Our Father, and the Hail Mary.

CH: This cures the child of (*pujo*)?

S1: When the child is expressing difficulty in going to the bathroom, it is sometimes believed to be caused by the evil eye, or because the mother has a lot of anger.

CH: What if a neighbor inflicts the evil eye on an adult? How do you treat that person?

S1: I use eggs and white flowers, or lemons with crosses cut into them.

CH: Lets say that I needed that kind of cleansing, what would you have to do?

S1: I would pass the egg over you in the form of the cross on your forehead, over your eyes and then ask you to put your head back and blow some air out through your mouth.

CH: Is this the only way that you know of treating evil eye inflicted on adults?

S1: There are other ways, but I can't remember.

CH: If someone wants to take a trip, is there some type of work that –

S1: People come in when they are about to take a trip, especially with all the airplane incidents happening these days. The person can light a candle to the Virgin Mary or a road opener (*un abre camino*). People have a lot of faith. When someone has to cross the border, sometimes the person's mother comes in and asks for a candle so that their son/daughter will cross without any problem, and they are able to cross successfully.

CH: You only give them a candle?

S1: I give them a protection candle and the San Simon oil.

CH: Do you give them anything else?

S1: I give them a "Santiago Regadito" prayer along with the prayer to the shadow of Saint Peter (*La sombra de San Pedro*). They recite these prayers and they cross without any problems.

CH: Who is Santiago?

S1: Santiago Regadito is a spirit.

CH: Who was the other saint?

S1: Saint Peter, the shadow of Saint Peter.

CH: He has his own prayer?

S1: Yes, he has his own prayer. I recommend the shadow of Saint Peter or Santiago Regadito.

CH: You recommend both of these prayers?

S1: The Saint Simon prayer is good too.

CH: You said that you get a lot of people that ask you for protection candles before they go on a trip?

S1: Not always, but after the 9-11 incident, I started getting more people coming in and asking me for candles.

CH: Do you get more people now coming in to ask for these candles, than before 9-11?

S1: Lots of people. People are nervous and anguished about it. Right now there is a scarcity of jobs. Some people don't have enough to eat. The situation is pretty bad. There is no money. There is no peace! Why don't they get the people that start wars? Right now there is a very strong anti-Latino sentiment happening. Just the Latin people, and it wasn't the Latin people that started this. They are taking away our jobs, taking away social security, closing down clinics, everything. We are getting kicked out of our jobs, and the government is getting so that now it is ok for employers to treat us unfairly, and they can even refuse to pay us. Right now there is a lot of poverty in Los Angeles. I've known people that have been suicidal over this. My own business has been cut down in half.

CH: After the 9-11 incident?

S1: Before 9-11, I used to make a thousand dollars, after 9-11, for three months, I only made one hundred dollars. It was really slow and I had to pay taxes.

CH: That is bad. If someone does some evil against your home or your business, how do you get rid of that?

S1: I use ammonium and clorox. You put these in a container and throw it.

CH: Where do you throw it?

S1: Where the evil has been placed. You put a [???] cross, (*sounds like: cruz de acote*) at your front door step.

CH: Do you recite a prayer or do some other work?

S1: People will recite prayers to the saint that they are devoted to. I don't give them prayers. I just do my thing.

CH: If some one did that to you, what would you do?

S1: I'm not afraid of that. If I were afraid of that then I would not be a witch doctor.

CH: How do you get rid of evil in the home?

S1: To get rid of bad stuff?

CH: Yes.

S1: You use cigar smoke (*humo de puro*), you spray holy water (*agua bendita*) all around the house, and you place nine lemons in each corner of the house, or seven camphor boxes (*cajitas de alcanfor*). You do this to get rid of evil spirits.

CH: Where do you place the seven boxes of camphor?

S1: In the corners of the house, or you can use twenty-one carbon balls to pick up all the bad vibrations. You leave them out for six days. You put ammonium on the carbon and then you leave it. After that, you take a bag and put all the carbon into the bag and throw it out through a window or however. The idea is that when the bag goes flying out of your house, all of the bad also goes flying out of your house.

CH: How do you get rid of enemies or any competition, or people that are not really fond of one?

S1: To get rid of competition? What do you mean competition?

CH: Well, people that are your rivals.

S1: You can take a black candle and make the sign of the cross on your forehead with it. If someone wants to take away what is yours, what you do is, you can break seven black candles and place them head down.

CH: Where do you place them?

S1: I burn them and place them head down with the name of the person.

CH: You burn them?

S1: Yes, but head down. You light up the bottom part of the candle, that is the part that is the base.

CH: So you light it right here?

S1: I break [??] right here, seven times.

CH: What about to remove enemies?

S1: You can use distancing water “San Alejo water,” (*agua de San Alejo*) – the distancing prayer (*rezo de San Alejo*).

CH: How many times does a person have to pray it or do it?

S1: Once is enough.

CH: How do you purify yourself?

S1: I bathe with salt.

CH: With salt?

S1: Sea salt.

CH: How many times?

S1: I use sea salt (*sal de mar*) and honey (*miel de abeja*). I bathe with this about nine times.

CH: Nine times a day?

S1: Nine times during a week.

CH: Do you recite a prayer or something like that?

S1: You pray to the saint of your devotion, the one you know, like I do to Saint Simon.

CH: Is there some sort of protection that can be used to ward off illness?

S1: Yes, a lot of people come in and light up white candles to ward off illness. I have a lot of faith in candles. I light up a lot of candles for the protection of my sons. I light up candles for gang members so that the police do not stop them without any good reason,

and so that students will have no problems in school. I always light up white candles for my sons. Lots of people do this.

CH: What can you do to harm someone?

S1: Not that. That's not right.

CH: Not that, ok. Now what about if someone wants to destroy the happiness in a home? What is your recommendation? Can you do something?

S1: Well, there is but by the time you want to do something, the thing is already done. What they do is they throw cemetery dirt on your house and that is something that cannot be removed.

CH: When this is done –

S1: That dirt stays in your house, and the only thing that you can do is move to another house where you can live in peace.

CH: Is there something that can be done to cause a person to become impotent? For example, can a woman come to you and ask for a job to cause her husband to become impotent because she has been cheated on or whatever?

S1: Yes, lots of women ask for that.

CH: What do you do?

S1: I don't think I can say that because it is pretty bad.

CH: All right, well then we'll leave that alone. Can a person ask for a couple to quarrel?

S1: You can take a candle and dog poop and lion poop.

CH: Lion poop?

S1: Yes, the person goes to the zoo and takes it from there, you know. You then add guinea pepper (*pimienta de guinea*) and (*chile quebrado*) and this is burned in the (*inodoro*).

CH: You take all that and you –

S1: [???

CH: After this the couple fights?

S1: They fight. You can also make two individual black balls for separation with a Chrysanthemum tied to it with a black string.

CH: You take the yellow chrysanthemum and you tie it with a black ribbon?

S1: You then say “as this flower dies, the relationship between so and so will also wilt and die.”

CH: Can a person cause someone to fall ill?

S1: I don’t do that but they say that it can be done. I don’t do that because I have sons and I just don’t do black magic.

CH: How do you cause a separation between two people? For example, if there is a woman who wants her husband to leave his lover.

S1: You can take twenty-one eggs, the name of the person and paint them black. At midnight you take this and throw it on the person’s front door. You take one of these dolls with the name of the person and poke it with pins. The doll has to be black.

CH: The doll has to be painted black.

S1: You then say, “this doll is not a doll, it is the body, and soul of so and so,” you tell him that he must separate as soon as possible and you swear at him. Then, you throw the doll on the person’s front door.

CH: The little doll?

S1: It is Voodoo.

CH: What is it?

S1: Voodoo.

CH: Voodoo?

S1: Yes.

CH: Did you make that little doll?

S1: No, I buy them, I don’t make them.

CH: Lets say that there is a person living in your home and you want that person to leave?

S1: I wouldn't do it because it's bad but it can be done. You take seven crow feathers or seven black, pigeon feathers, you take a long string, and write the name of the person down and tie the feathers on the string a quarter (inch?) apart. You take flying powder (**polvo volador**), and pepper (**pimienta guinea**), tie it to the feather with the person's name on it and hang it on a tree branch outside near the home so that it is just flying in the wind, or you can put it under the person's mattress. You start this work on a Friday at twelve and you throw it out on the third Friday-fifteen days after.

CH: So you place this under the mattress of the person?

S1: Yes.

CH: And this causes the person to leave?

S1: The person leaves!

CH: In how many days?

S1: Also, when it rains, where you see a stream of water you can say "just like this dirty water is running, so and so will also leave forever and may that person never come back."

CH: Ok. Is there something that can be done to cause a person to leave and go around like a dog?

S1: Like a dog?

CH: Yes, like a dog out in the street. How is this done?

S1: It can be done but I don't do that kind of stuff. To cause that kind of suffering is hard stuff.

CH: I think we are finished.

S1: All right.

J: Just a couple of more minutes. Can you ask him what is the most frequently treated problem, what is the least frequently treated problem, and what is the most unusual case?

CH: Recently, what problems have you most frequently had to treat?

S1: I have got a lot of people coming in because of unemployment or because they have been let go or are mistreated at work. They are usually threatened due to their illegal status.

CH: What do you give them?

S1: I give them protection candles so that their bosses will not take their jobs away or to pacify the bosses' mouth.

CH: So you treat this only through candles?

S1: Yes, or a lemon with a cross cut into it with the name of the person that needs to be calmed. This can be used to pacify the boss because there are some bosses that mistreat their workers.

CH: You place the name of the person –

S1: You cut a cross into the lemon and place the name of the person inside of the lemon.

CH: You place this in the bosses' wallet?

S1: No, you can put it in your own purse or in the refrigerator to keep the person pacified or calm.

CH: What problems have you least treated these days?

S1: Everybody is restless.

CH: Everybody is restless?

S1: Yes.

CH: Have you recently had an unusual case?

S1: Lots.

CH: Like which ones?

S1: What is happening now is that there is a medication that is being prescribed that is causing people to develop breast tumors. People are coming in with this problem but I do not treat this. Also, I get people that are kind of going crazy-people that are kind of losing their mind. I get people that are suffering from depression.

CH: How are you treating the people that are coming in with mind problems?

S1: I sometimes give them a cleansing and I just talk to them and this helps.

CH: Do you use a special kind of cleansing?

S1: Sometimes I do, it depends. If the person seems to be carrying something bad, but not everybody has a case of witchcraft. I would be a liar to say that everybody that comes in to see me about this condition is suffering from witchcraft.

CH: Do you have a specific case you can tell us about that had this kind of problem?
Can you tell us how you treated the problem?

S1: I get people that come in because they can't walk. Here, that is a very common problem.

CH: Why? Is it due to arthritis or something like that?

S1: Yes, here a lot of people suffer from arthritis.

CH: Ok, so how do you treat this problem?

S1: I treat this with a bath.

CH: What kind of bath?

S1: A "bell flower" bath (*baño de Flor de Campana*).

CH: Do you prepare it for them?

S1: No, I tell them what to get and instruct them on how to prepare it and they do it.
This is very effective in getting rid of the pain.

CH: How many "bell flowers" (*Flor de Campana*) should be used?

S1: At least ten.

CH: Does the person add anything else to the bath?

S1: I add alcohol and "Florida Water" (*Agua Florida*) but this is after it is out of the fire
because it can catch fire.

CH: Oh, so you have to cook the "bell flowers" (*Flor de Campana*)?

S1: Yes.

CH: You cook ten of these flowers in how much water?

S1: In a pot, about this big. It has to be very hot.

CH: You cook all this and add the alcohol and Florida Water (*Agua Florida*) later?

S1: I use one bottle of each thing.

CH: A small or big bottle?

S1: The ones you find, like this.

CH: Ok.

S1: Another thing is that some people think that doctors are very good but I don't see that they are. There are some poor women that suffer from excessive bleeding. Here, doctors give them no hope, let them go and do nothing for them.

CH: So, what happens to the women?

S1: Sometimes, these women have scrapings done and they are left in very bad shape. Doctors do not know how to stop the bleeding. They are treated through injections and they do not work.

CH: Do you have any recommendations on how to treat these women?

S1: Yes, I have many recommendations, but I'm not going to talk about this. Here, doctors mishandle their patients and there is no need for that- with [???] people can heal themselves.

CH: Ok, this is all.

J: Thank you.

S1: Ok.

END OF TAPE